



MARSHAL MATTERS SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION

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Marshal's Minute-State Fire Marshal Matt Perez

The Fallen Fire Fighter and Medal of Honor Ceremonies were held in Springfield on September 10th and I want to personally thank the OSFM's Greg Hay and Robin Sudduth for once again putting on an amazing event. Thank You to Governor JB Pritzker attending and for your words of encouragement and support for our brothers and sisters in the fire service. Firefighter Jacob "Jake" Ringering of the Godfrey Fire Protection District, Firefighter Kody Vanfossan of the Christopher Fire Department, Firefighter Mario Araujo of the Chicago Fire Department, Firefighter/Paramedic Dylan Cunningham of the South Holland Fire Department, Firefighter/Paramedic Robert Reisinger of the River Grove Fire Department, Firefighter Edward Singleton of the Chicago Fire Department and Paramedic Robert Truevillian of the Chicago Fire Department were honored for their heroic sacrifice as their families were presented with the Duty Death Gold Badge. These men made the ultimate sacrifice, but their families will help keep their memories and legacy alive. We recognized the heroic efforts and accomplishments of many members of the Illinois Fire Service by presenting the Medal of Valor and Unit Citations. Thank You, to all the members of the Illinois Fire Service who have dedicated their lives to help protect and serve the communities they live in.

Fire Prevention Week is coming up October 3rd-9th and I highly encourage all departments across the state to participate and reach out and make connections with members in your communities. This year's theme, "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety," really stresses the importance of having working smoke and CO alarms in every home. I encourage all residents in Illinois to test your smoke and CO alarms monthly and check the expiration dates on all alarms. Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond. To learn the sounds of your specific smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, check the manufacturer's instructions that came in the box, or search the brand and model online. It's plain and simple, working smoke and CO alarms save lives! By working together with community groups and residents, we can help reduce fire related fatalities on our communities

Finally, the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal continues to work hard to provide funding and training opportunities to all departments through grants from our office. Our Small Equipment Grant Program is accepting applications now through October 22nd. I want to stress the importance of making sure you remain compliant with NFIRS reporting. Even if you only have a couple of calls each month, you still need to certify that information in the system. This is affecting numerous departments and districts eligibility to apply and receive grant funding. To check the status of your department or district, visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/NFIRSComplianceReport.pdf>.

Employee Spotlight



Nicholas Gustafson

Boiler Safety Specialist

Where are you originally from? Lombard IL

Tell us about your family? I have a wife whose name is Tori. We have been married for 7 years and together for 11 years. We have a 4-year-old son named Levi and a 17-month-old daughter named Brooklyn.

Favorite food(s)? German cuisine is always my kryptonite.

Hobbies? Always have been a gamer. But I am getting more into cooking and woodwork.

What's your favorite movie or book? Terminator 2 is always a go too, with Interstellar being a close second.

When you get in the car what type of music will be coming out of your speakers? 90's alternative mixed with some 90's metal.

What did you want to be when you were a kid? An Actor

What's your favorite part of the job? Getting to meet all walks of life.

What's something unique about you? I'm the tallest person I know. Standing 6' 8"

Where is your favorite place to vacation? Maui, Hawaii

Where is your bucket list destination? England and Vatican City

Fallen Firefighter Memorial



The Fallen Firefighter Memorial was held on September 10th at the Firefighter Memorial on the State Capitol Grounds in Springfield.

"Today we honor some of our state's most heroic public servants – united as much by their courage to serve as their bond to their colleagues and communities. We all live in a safer world because our firefighters respond to our communities' most daunting emergencies unwaveringly and unselfishly. Firefighters are compelled — out of an unwritten commitment to service without limits born out of both their innate sense of responsibility and compassion — to do all that they can for all who need it."

"Our fire departments did not flinch when called to the frontlines of the pandemic, serving their communities even in the face of a deadly virus. In doing so they sacrifice many of the everyday moments the rest of us sometimes take for granted: hours and holidays with family or enjoying time with neighbors and friends – all to keep our communities safe. And of course: they dive into duty knowing they risk the ultimate sacrifice."

Governor JB Pritzker



WWW.SFM.ILLINOIS.GOV/

Fallen Firefighter Memorial

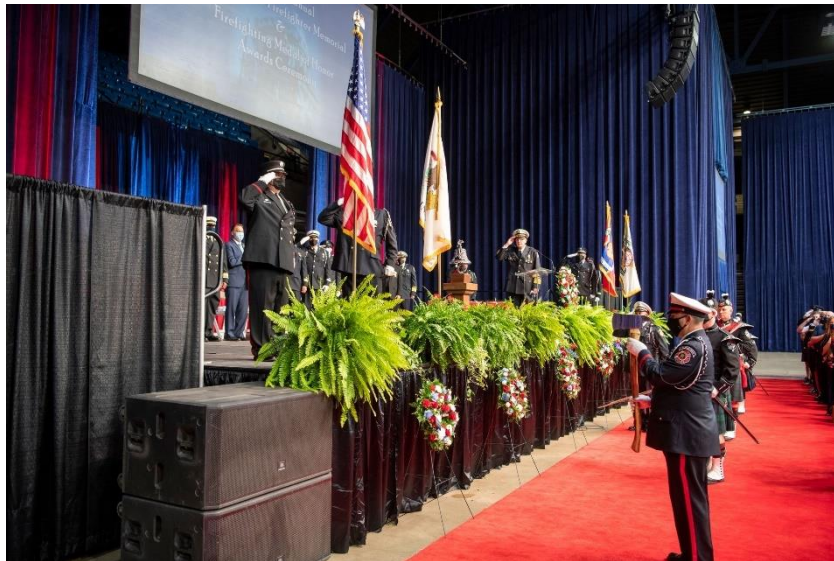


Medal of Honor Ceremony



"Today we finally get to honor our seven brothers and their families who made the ultimate sacrifice protecting the communities that they loved. It has been a difficult past year and a half, and I can't thank the members of the Illinois Fire Service enough for their dedication, courage and honor as they continued serving their communities throughout the pandemic."

*Illinois State Fire Marshal
Matt Perez*



Medal of Honor Ceremony- Gold Badge Families



Medal of Honor Ceremony- Gold Badge Families



Medal of Honor Ceremony- Gold Badge Families



Medal of Honor Ceremony- Medal of Valor



*Firefighter Lance Lusk
Canton Fire Department*



*Firefighter/EMT Darryl Jones
Chicago Fire Department*



*Firefighter/EMT Ryan Quinn
Chicago Fire Department
Chicago Fire Commissioner
Annette Nance-Holt received the
award for Quinn*

The Medal of Valor is given by the State of Illinois to a firefighter for an act of heroism or bravery that clearly demonstrated courage and dedication in the face of danger while in the performance of duty

Medal of Honor Ceremony- Award Recipients

Fourteen firefighters received the Firefighter Excellence Award for an act of service in the line of duty, demonstrating excellence and professionalism in service to their fellow Illinoisans. Recipients include:

Galesburg Fire Department

- *Firefighter Joseph Brignall*
- *Firefighter Kyle Harms*

Gorham Volunteer Fire Department

- *Chief Ronald Guetersloh*

Lockport Township Fire Protection District

- *Firefighter/PM Josh Hertzmann*
- *Firefighter/PM Zach Toepper*
- *Lieutenant Philip Hutto*
- *Firefighter/PM Jason Pawlowski*
- *Firefighter/PM Joseph Schwinger*
- *Firefighter/PM James Baumgartner*
- *Firefighter/PM Nicholas Felber*

South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District

- *Captain Matt Starr*
- *Lieutenant Richard Stumbaugh*
- *Firefighter/PM Chris Elliott*
- *Firefighter/PM Steven Diehl*

In addition, five units received the Firefighter Excellence "Unit Citation" Awards for an act of service in the line of duty, demonstrating excellence, teamwork, and professionalism in service to Illinois residents. Recipients include:

Arthur Fire Department, Incident # 20-0301200

- Firefighter Eric Gingerich
- Firefighter Clint Herschberger
- Firefighter Lamar Hostetler
- Firefighter Elmer Miller

Bolingbrook Fire Department, Incident # 20-03415

- Lieutenant Sergio Calleros
- Lieutenant David Proffitt
- Firefighter/PM Mark Patrick

Canton Fire Department, Incident # 20-0002218

- Lieutenant Clark Evans
- Firefighter Cody Cheatham
- Firefighter Jake Leake

Gorham Volunteer Fire Department, Incident # 20-20004

- 2nd Lieutenant Sam Baumgarte
- 1st Lieutenant Phillip Bonneville
- Firefighter Bryce Mueller
- Firefighter Logan Roe

South Elgin/Countryside Fire Protection District, Incident # 20-0002649

Ambulance 22

- Firefighter/PM Matt Dalbke
- Firefighter/EMT Kevin Henryson

Engine 21

- Firefighter/PM Robert Rimgale

Engine 22

- Lieutenant Mitchell Krasowski
- Firefighter/PM Neal Lippold
- Firefighter/PM Brian Sloan

Tower 21

- Firefighter/PM Dustin Differding
- Firefighter/PM Jon Pollock



State Fire Marshal Life Safety Award



The State Fire Marshal Life Safety Award is given in recognition of the extraordinary efforts performed by individuals in furtherance of fire prevention and life safety.

OSFM Chief of Operations Dale Simpson was awarded the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award for OSFM Administration.



OSFM Fire Prevention Inspector Dan Bauer was awarded the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award for OSFM Operations.



Lieutenant Edward Dunne, Evergreen Park Fire Department was awarded the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Award for Fire Department Personnel.

Campus Fire Safety Month

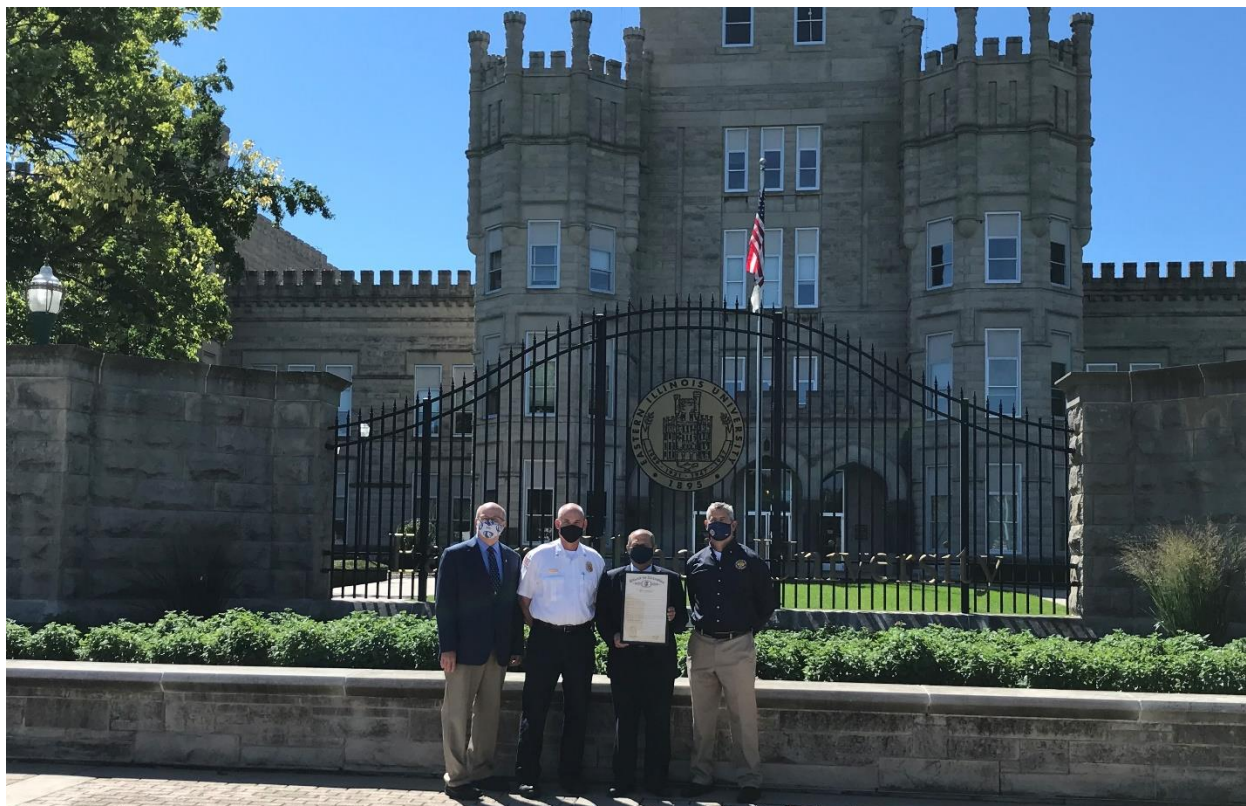


September is Campus Fire Safety Month and Illinois is among numerous other states urging students to create and practice a fire escape plan. The goal of this month is to help prevent common campus fires and reduce fire hazards. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) fires in student housing cause an average of one death, 32 injuries, and \$15 million dollars in property damage each year. Three out of four of those fires begins in the kitchen. The likelihood for a fire is greatest on the weekends and on weekdays from 5-9 PM. Since January 2000, at least 175 people, including students, parents and children have died in college-related fires with 7 of those fatalities occurring here Illinois.

The OSFM encourages schools, universities, colleges and local municipalities across Illinois to come together and provide educational fire safety outreach programs to all students throughout the entire school year, not just in September. For many students, this could be their first exposure to a fire safety lesson since they were in elementary school. Since this is the first-time many students have lived away from home, it's more important than ever for students to understand how to create a fire safety escape plan and practice that plan.

The OSFM partnered with Eastern Illinois University to raise awareness about Campus Fire Safety Month. EIU Executive Director of Housing and dining Mark Hudson talks about the steps that are taken to help keep students safe on campus: <https://youtu.be/jfwD0S2l25U>

EIU Campus Fire Safety Media Event



Left to Right: Mark Hudson EIU Ex. Director of Housing and Dining, Steve Bennett Charleston Fire Chief, Dr. Mark Glassman EIU President and Fire Marshal Matt Perez



The OSFM, Eastern Illinois University and the Charleston Fire Department hosted a media conference highlighting Campus Fire Safety Month on September 9th. The event provided the media with an in depth look at how EIU works closely with the Charleston Fire Department to make sure students remain safe and fire prevention message is provided to those students.

EIU was the first university in Illinois to comply with the 2012 Dormitory Sprinkler Act, which requires all dorms and Greek housing to have fire suppression systems installed.



Fire Marshal Perez Award



Fire Marshal Perez was presented with the President's Award from the Great Lakes Division of the International Fire Chiefs Association. The award was presented for his outstanding service and dedication to the fire service during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Fire Marshal Perez worked with departments across the state to ensure they had enough manpower and kept a running sheet of COVID cases impacting departments staffing and manpower levels. Congratulations Fire Marshal Perez and thanks for your leadership during these difficult times.



NASFM Fire Prevention & Safety Symposium



Fire Marshal Perez was sworn in for another term on the National Association of State Fire Marshal's Board of Directors

Fire Marshal Perez attended the 31st Annual National Association of State Fire Marshals Fire Prevention & Safety Symposium in Vermont. The Symposium presented essential educational opportunities for the Marshals as they adapt their response and recovery operations in the ever changing Covid-19 environment.

Fire Marshal Perez was also sworn in for another term on the National Association of State Fire Marshal's Board of Directors. Congratulations!



Left to Right: Fire Marshal Perez, USFA Administrator Tonya Hoover and NASFM Executive Director Julius Halas



Illinois CRR Task Force



*The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal
is proud to be a member of the
Illinois Community Risk Reduction Task Force.*

ILLINOISCRR.COM

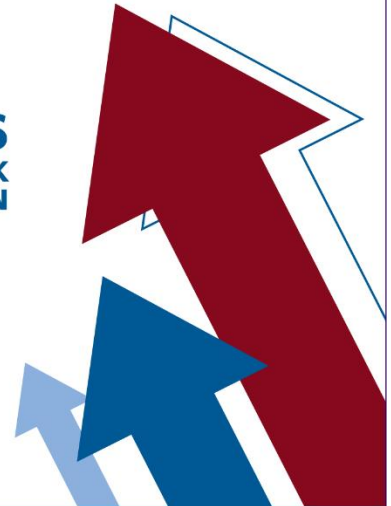


**Visit ILLINOISCRR.COM for a
comprehensive collection of:**

- Community risk reduction campaigns
- Training opportunities
- National resources
- Partner and affiliate information

**ILLINOIS
COMMUNITY RISK
REDUCTION**

**NEW CRR
RESOURCES &
INFORMATION**



State of Illinois CRR Conference

FREE

SignUp Now!



**OCTOBER 22, 2021
CROWN PLAZA HOTEL
SPRINGFIELD, IL
8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COMMUNITY
RISK REDUCTION
CONFERENCE**

NFPA –
Vision 2020 –
Illinois CRR Stakeholder

**Meredith Hawes
Steve Hrustich**

Taskforce –
UL Close Before You Doze –
Montgomery County CRR –

**Marsha Giesler
Sean DeCrane
Kevin Schott**

HFSC/NFPA Fire Sprinkler
Sprinkler Initiative Resources –
Safe Chicago –

Tom Lia

Matthew Ladniak

MIHC What is it? –

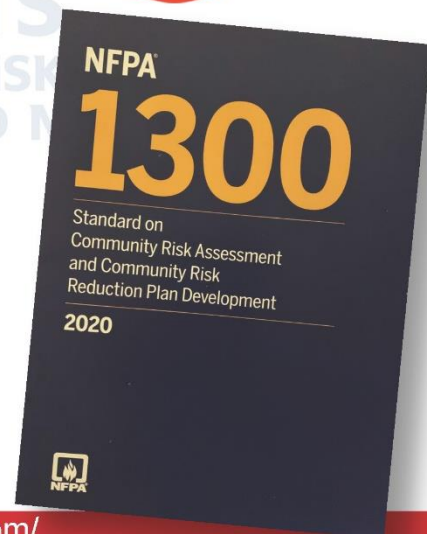
**Dr. Katie Tatariss, MD,
MPH, FAEMS, FACEP**

IL Smoke Alarm Program –

Phil Zaleski

Fire Extinguishing Systems, Pyrotechnics,
Sprinkler Certifications –
Kidde –

**Bob Wetzel OSFM
Sharon Cooksey**



<https://illinoisspringfieldcrr.eventbrite.com/>

OSFM DEI Working Group

OSFM DEI efforts continued throughout the month of September as we celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15th), Rosh Hashanah – Jewish New Year (September 6 -8 – sundown to sundown), Native American Day (September 14), Yom Kippur – Holiest day of Jewish calendar (September 15 – 16 – sundown to sundown), and international Equal Pay Day (September 18).

The DEI Working Group (employee peer group) met on September 2, 2021. Meeting agenda items included updates relating to agency DEI marketing efforts and a thoughtful “A walk in their shoes” discussion regarding acceptance, access, and participation within the workplace from a Hispanic/Latino perspective. We also bid a fond farewell to our colleague Edwina Wohlgemuth as she transitions to retirement.

The next OSFM Employee DEI Working Group meeting is scheduled for: October 7, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Any OSFM staff member who desires to serve on the working group (or who would simply like to attend a meeting as a guest) should contact Deputy Director Armstead or HR Director Schrage.

We published the fall 2021 edition of our DEI External Partner Outreach document in September. This document contains a treasure trove of DEI centric information and resources. Here is a link to it:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/OSFM%20DEI%20External%20Outreach%20Packet%20Fall%202021%20Edition.pdf>

On September 20, 2021, Deputy Director Armstead participated in a meeting of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association’s (IFCA) DEI committee where he serves as an IFCA Presidential Appointee. The committee discussion was productive and very insightful.

Please reach out to us if you are one of our fire service partners and need assistance with starting your own DEI initiative.

Diversity = Acceptance of all

Equity = Access for all

Inclusion = Meaningful participation by all



IFSI Minute

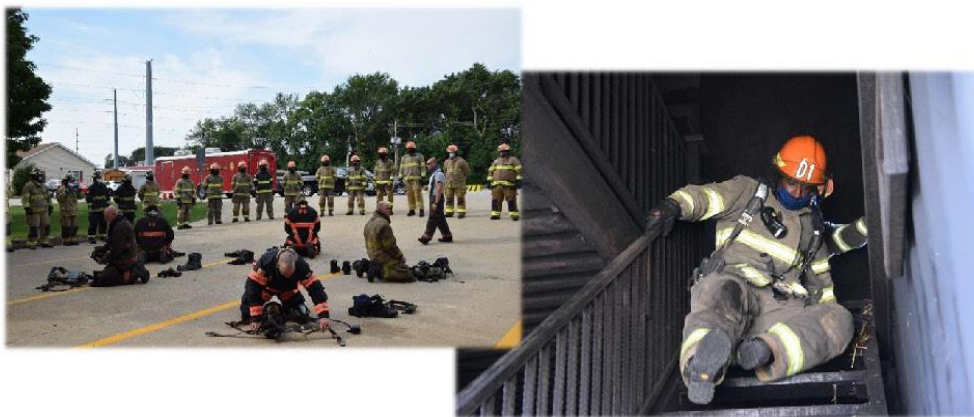
AN UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

Fall is officially here and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) team is busy delivering top-quality training and education across the state.



FALL 2021 ACADEMY

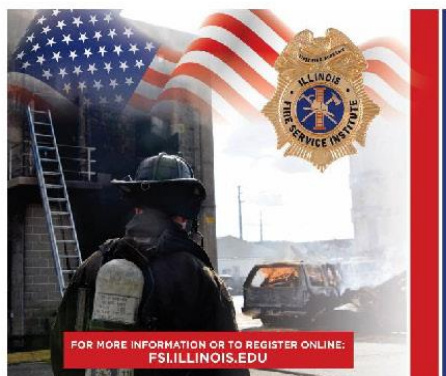
IFSI welcomed our largest ever Academy class on September 15. Fifty-four candidates, representing 26 departments and 17 counties are working to complete the resident program in Champaign. Over the course of the seven-week program, the IFSI instructional team will challenge each student to develop comfort and familiarity in live fire conditions and learn how to operate effectively and efficiently as a member of a company.



VETERANS IN THE FIRE SERVICE DAY

IFSI will host the 4th Annual Veterans in the Fire Service Day, 16-17 October in Champaign. This unique, no-cost personal development opportunity is open to all Veterans who are currently part of the fire service or are interested in learning more about a career in the fire service. Attendees will participate in live fire and hands-on training activities that will challenge all skill levels. Necessary basic skills training and equipment is available for Veteran attendees with no experience in live fire conditions.

The intent of the program is to foster comradery and connections among Veterans in the fire service. Past, present, and future members alike. All are welcome to attend but registration is required. Free hotel accommodations are available for attendees. Complete event details: fsi.illinois.edu



ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE
PRESENTS THE 4TH ANNUAL
**VETERANS
IN THE
FIRE SERVICE**
An Opportunity for Firefighters Past, Present and Future
October 16 & 17, 2021
IFSI Training Grounds
Champaign, Illinois

Space is limited.
Advanced registration is required.

**TWO DAY UNIQUE AND
CHALLENGING TRAINING EVENT**

- NO COST TO ATTEND
- PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- INCREASED ESPRIT DE CORPS FOR VETERANS IN THE FIRE SERVICE
- MEALS AND LODGING ARE PROVIDED

As always, we are grateful for your support in the fulfillment of our Mission.

IAAI Celebrates 50 Years**GLOBAL LEADERS IN FIRE INVESTIGATION****OSFM NEWSLETTER ARTICLE****Greg Vespa**

Greetings, I just wanted to bring some much deserved attention to an Organization that we in the Division of Arson Investigation rely heavily on to not only continue our relentless pursuit to better ourselves in our profession and be the best trained Arson Investigators in our State, but to help us all in obtaining those elusive continuing education hours so badly needed for recertification.

The Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, and I could not be more proud to not only be part of an organization so highly revered, and recognized as the premier fire and arson training provider not only in the State of Illinois, but the mid-west United States, but to have been elected to lead the organization during this special year. As I celebrate fifteen years with OSFM's, Division of Arson Investigation, as well as with the Chapter, I also feel highly honored and privileged to be only the third OSFM Arson Special Agent to serve as Chapter President, let alone getting to do so while celebrating our 50th Anniversary. Stepping into and accepting this position came with the knowledge that I had some pretty large shoes to fill, not only with two Arson Division predecessors, but the likes of one of Illinois' biggest names in Fire and Arson Investigation, the legendary Bill Buxton, who by the way also served with the Division of Arson Investigation, albeit held the Chapter Presidency after leaving the Division and forming Pyr Tech Fire Investigation Services in Collinsville, Illinois. Incidentally, he also served as President of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI).

Stepping into a position that had taken a roughly thirty year hiatus from OSFM's Division of Arson Investigation, I knew full well that filling the shoes of not only August "Gus" Mazzone, the first Division of Arson Special Agent, actually the Division Director, to serve as Chapter President, circa 1972 - 1976, but Bill Buxton, circa 1976 - 1980, and Terry Pitkus, circa 1986, would be no easy feat. Gus and Bill were also instrumental in forming the Southern Illinois Arson Investigators Association in 1974, another training association that would pave the way for what we have today and all while most all of the current Arson folks were still in grade school, well that and always anxiously awaiting each Saturday evening for Emergency to come on television.



Gus Mazzone

Illinois Chapter IAAI PO Box #4155 Rockford, IL 61110

IAAI Celebrates 50 Years



Bill Buxton

With Gus and Bill forming the Southern Illinois Arson Investigators Association, they would bring the First Annual Downstate Arson Investigation Seminar to Southern Illinois University (Edwardsville Campus), that same year and believe it or not, only one month after forming the Association. The Downstate Conference would prosper for many years to come, known as the Illinois Southern Arson Seminar, and the Illinois Southern Advanced Fire & Arson Investigation Seminar. In 1980, the Downstate Conference took the name of one of its founders and became the August F. Mazzone Fire and Arson Investigation Conference, a name it would garner for the next twenty-nine years, and well after the Southern Illinois Arson Investigators Association morphed or more so merged into the "Southern Zone" of the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators. In 2009 at the urging of several members from the Southern Zone, and with the approval of the Chapter, the August F. Mazzone Fire and Arson Investigation Conference was rebranded, adding its co-founder Bill Buxton to its title, and becoming the Buxton/Mazzone Fire and Arson Investigation Conference, a title that still holds to this day.

Having had the luxury of being assigned to the Metro East area of Southern Illinois, and the home of the Southern Illinois Arson Investigators Association, I was fortunate to have met Bill and several long time Chapter members, allowing me to absorb a wealth of information. Of course, being tucked away in Southern Illinois, I wasn't fortunate enough to learn the Arson Division's history with the Chapter in the center and northern areas of the State and would only



Terry Pitkus

recently learn of former Special Agent Terry Pitkus, and his time as Chapter President, circa 1986. The even more unfortunate thing was that I only learned that information after Terry was called home this past April and only by reading about his achievements. Terry served for twenty-four years with the Arson Division and as I understand, was the founder of the Northern Illinois Fire Investigation Task Force, as well as the Annual Northern Illinois Arson Seminar. Obviously following in the footsteps of his two predecessors, Gus and Bill.



Illinois Southern Advanced Fire & Arson Investigation Seminar, The Holiday Inn, "Holidome", Collinsville, IL - (April 1979) L/R Bill Buxton, Mrs. Bill "Pat" Buxton, August "Gus" Mazzone, Doug Brown, and Cahokia Police Chief/St. Clair Co. Sheriff Merle Justice

Illinois Chapter IAAI PO Box #4155 Rockford, IL 61110

IAAI Celebrates 50 Years



Greg Vespa

WOW talk about large shoes to fill!!!! Fast-forward, September 01, 2006, I'm sworn-in as a Special Agent in the Division of Arson Investigation, having no idea how much history there was between it and the Chapter. While I never had the pleasure of meeting Gus, or Terry, I did forge a very good friendship with Bill, who at the time, was now the owner of Pyr Tech Fire Investigation Services in Collinsville, Illinois, and was fortunate enough to hear some wonderful stories, garner some useful knowledge that I use in the job to this day, and most importantly meet the people who would push me to follow in the footsteps of the same person who mentored them. I remember a couple weeks after getting hired, the (Division) Boss at the time, Richard Crum, asked me if I wanted to go to the Annual Arson Conference in Champaign, and of course being the "new guy", said "hell yes", (ooppss), thus my first encounter with the Illinois Chapter of the IAAI.

Little did I know the impact that first Conference would have on me, nor did I ever dream I would be more than just an attendee at the next several conferences, not only in Champaign at the Annual Training Conferences, but the Metro East, AKA the Buxton/Mazzone Fire Investigation Conferences as well.

Somewhere around 2009 while attending the Buxton/Mazzone Fire Investigation Conference, actually the first Southern Zone Conference since the addition of Bill to the Conference title, I would meet two individuals who would help me turn the corner into getting more involved in not only the Buxton/Mazzone Conferences, but the Chapter as a whole.

As I recall, the 2009 Buxton/Mazzone Conference had wound down and I was hanging around helping clean up, talking to some of the folks instrumental in bringing back the "zip" to the



Cory Reeves

Conference, that had started waning, as most Conferences do during their lifetime. Enter Cory Reeves and Mike Presson, (*man I hope they don't strangle me for digging up these two photos*), two Southern Zone Board Members/Southern Zone Training Committee Members, both of whom had put together the 2009 Conference. Over the course of the next couple of hours, I found my way



Mike Presson

on the Southern Zone Training Committee, and knee deep in the planning of the 2010 Conference. Little did they tell me, well actually Mike did tell me, at the very last minute, that the 2011 Conference was my baby, ain't nothing like jumping in with both feet and feeling like you forgot your life preserver, eh. But you know, I guess in hindsight, they gave me the push I needed to give my all to the Chapter.

Well here we are, 2021, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators and having the opportunity to turn a page in the history books of not only the Division of Arson Investigation, but the Chapter as well. I just

Illinois Chapter IAAI PO Box #4155 Rockford, IL 61110

IAAI Celebrates 50 Years

wanted to give some well overdue attention to Chapter, with a little smidgen of its history, and I hope not too much on how honored I feel to be such a large part of such a great organization. With not only the Chapter, but the International, as we call it, and our Mothership, being the primary and premiere fire and arson investigation training provider in the State, Nation, and Abroad, combined with the constant change that this profession brings with it, I feel the continued exemplary partnership that the Chapter, the Division of Arson Investigation, and The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal as a whole, has forged, will bring this profession the foremost state-of-the-art training there is to offer.

I'd like to offer a special thanks to those who contributed to this article, Illinois Chapter Past President Joe Mazzone and current Chapter Second Vice President Cory Reeves.

Happy 50th Anniversary to the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators!!!



Illinois Chapter IAAI PO Box #4155 Rockford, IL 61110

YFSI Rockford Class



A Youth Firesetter Intervention Class was held in Rockford on September 16th and 17th with 15 students in attendance.

The Youth Fire Setter Intervention Program is a statewide standardized program to provide prevention education/intervention and referrals, if warranted, for the children and families of Illinois to reduce the frequency and severity of fires set by youths. Partnering with the fire service, this program provides a coordinated referral center for the assessment and treatment of youth fire setters and their families, thereby slowing down the often-devastating results of fire setting. Prevention education can quell the youth fire problem but only when properly targeted, designed, and delivered. The behaviors causing the problem must be considered because what motivates their behavior is the surest clue to solving the youth fire setting problem.

To learn more about this program or if you are a member of the Fire Service Community and would like to become a YFSI Interventionist visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/About/Divisions/Arson/YFSIP/Pages/default.aspx>

YFSI Springfield Class

Youth Firesetter Intervention Class

The Office of the State Fire Marshal will be hosting a Youth Fire Setter Intervention Program class in Springfield.

Here is the training information:

Date & Time: Monday, November 1, & Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Monday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Place: Office of the State Fire Marshal
1035 Adlai Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703

If you would like to register for this training, please click here:

https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Events/Pages/Youth-Firesetter-Interventionist-Class_20211101.aspx

This class is limited to **20 students** due to the current COVID-19 distancing safety measures.

There is a fee of \$100 per student for this class. Please make the check payable to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and mail it to the Office, prior to the training date:

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal
Arson Division – YFSIP
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703

For further information, please feel free to call me at (217) 415-7206, or email me Simony.Weyforth@illinois.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Springfield!

Simony Weyforth
Youth Fire Setter Program Coordinator



WEIU Paw Report

The Paw Report™

Arson Special Agent Shane Arndt and his canine partner Kit participated in WEIU-TV's series called *The Paw Report*. SA Arndt highlights the relationship he has with his canine partner and how they work together to assist fire departments and other investigating organizations on fire scenes. They demonstrated how they train daily and the importance of having a canine available to assist.

You can view the episode here:

<https://youtu.be/TtLn6LFInB4>

Currently, there are seven active canine teams across the state. These teams are on call 24-hours a day and are ready to assist.

To learn more about the Arson Division and Accelerant Detection Canines, visit:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/About/Divisions/Arson/Pages/default.aspx>



Fire Fighter Peer Support Class

www.ilffps.org



Illinois Fire Fighter Peer Support

PEER SUPPORT TRAINING COURSE

When:

Saturday December 4th, 830am-4pm

Sunday, December 5th, 830am-4pm

Where:

Cornbelt Fire Protection District

506 E. Main Street

Mahomet, IL 61853

Cost: Cost of this class is being covered by a grant from the State Fire Marshals office

Please go to ilffps.org and click on the registration page to submit your application.

Any questions feel free to contact us at ilffps1@gmail.com

Upon successful completion of the training, participants will be a member of the Peer Support team. As a member you will potentially meet one on one with peers as well as participate in outreach events. You will also be asked to attend formal events like Road To Help and React. We will also be looking for people to write articles for our blog.

Fire Fighter Peer Support Class

www.ilffps.org



Illinois Fire Fighter Peer Support

PEER SUPPORT TRAINING COURSE

When:

Saturday January 22nd, 830am-4pm

Sunday, January 23rd, 830am-4pm

Where:

Washington Fire Department

200 N Wilnor

Washington, IL 61571

Cost: Cost of this class is being covered by a grant from the State Fire Marshals office

Please go to ilffps.org and click on the registration page to submit your application.

Any questions feel free to contact us at ilffps1@gmail.com

Upon successful completion of the training, participants will be a member of the Peer Support team. As a member you will potentially meet one on one with peers as well as participate in outreach events. You will also be asked to attend formal events like Road To Help and React. We will also be looking for people to write articles for our blog.

NIFIA Conference



ROOM RESERVATIONS:

Special pricing
includes 4 passes to
water park

844-485-9653

GROUP CODE:
2021FIRE

Full breakfast included
both days starting at
0700

 **Great Wolf Lodge**
1700 Nations Drive, Gurnee, IL 60031

1ST ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION CONFERENCE 2021


Great Wolf Lodge

1700 Nations Drive
Gurnee, IL 60031

15-16, November
0800-1530

Pricing:

**Members- \$150
for two days**

**Non Members-
\$180**

One day- \$90

Questions:
Email- Mike DaValle at
mdavalle@waucondafire.org
or Bob Kleinheinz at
bob.kleinheinz@lakezurich.org

NIFIA Conference**NIFIA Conference Schedule****November 15****0700-0800** Registration**0800-0815** Welcome from Village of Gurnee and Lake County Fire Chiefs**0815-0845 OSFM Updates****0830-0930** Meredith Hawes, North Central Region Director NFPA**1000-1530 Main classes, your choice**

- **Emergency Responder Radio Communication Training** from Safer Building Coalition, Chief Alan Perdue
- **NFPA 13 update** training from NFSA

1000-1200 NFPA 72 changes from Honeywell Fire Safety, Richard Roberts Industry Affairs Manager**1300-1530 What you need to know about a fire alarm system** from Affiliated Fire Systems, Gene Rowe Director of Business Development**November 16****0800-0900** Registration**0900-1530 Classes, your choice**

- **0900-1200** IFC/IBC updates
- **1300-1530** IRC building features, and applying the code to cannabis
- **0900-1530** NFSA day 2, storage facilities
- **0900-1530** UL trends with lithium batteries

NIFIA Conference**NIFIA FIRE PREVENTION CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION****NOVEMBER 15,16
0800-1530****GREAT WOLF
LODGE****1700 NATIONS DRIVE
GURNEE,IL 60031**

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| TWO DAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$150 MEMBER |
| CONFERENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$180 NON-MEMBER |
| ONE DAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$90 Monday November 15 |
| CONFERENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$90 Tuesday November 16 |

RETURN FORM AND CHECKS PAYABLE TO
NIFIA,
MAILED TO 409 NIPPERSINK RD. ROUND LAKE,
IL 60073 ATTN: TONY BREUSCHER

TOTAL:_____

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
FD NAME: _____
EMAIL: _____

NIFIA Conference

NIFIA FIRE PREVENTION CONFERENCE VENDOR REGISTRATION

NOVEMBER 15, 16
0800-1530

**GREAT WOLF
LODGE**

**1700 NATIONS DRIVE
GURNEE, IL 60031**



EXHIBITOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300
EXTRA PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$200
AM BREAK	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250
SPONSOR		
PM BREAK	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250
SPONSOR		
BREAKFAST	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$750
SPONSOR		
LUNCH SPONSOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$750
SOCIAL HOUR	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$750
EVENT SPONSOR		
RECEPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000
SPONSOR		

**EXHIBITOR INCLUDES TABLE,
CHAIR AND MEALS FOR BOTH
DAYS FOR ONE PERSON.**

**ADDITIONAL VENDOR PACKAGES
AVAILABLE**

**RETURN FORM AND CHECKS PAYABLE TO NIFIA,
MAILED TO 409 NIPPERSINK RD ROUND LAKE, IL
60073 ATTN: TONY BREUSCHER**

TOTAL: _____

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
Company: _____
EMAIL: _____

National Preparedness Month

2021

National Preparedness Month

Prepare to Protect



**Make a plan
to prepare
for disasters**



**Build a kit with
everyone in mind**



This person is disaster ready



Make a Kit

So are these people



National Preparedness Month is an annual observance to remind all Americans how important it is for individuals, families and communities to be prepared for disasters and emergencies that can happen at any time.

This year's theme is Prepare to Protect and highlights how preparing for disaster is to protect everyone you love.

Preparedness isn't just a month-long campaign; you should continue to review your emergency plans and make any adjustments to those plans that keeps any your physical needs in mind. Hold drills twice a year to make sure everyone in your home understands and can execute those plans if an emergency were to arise.

To learn more and ways to prepare your family for an emergency visit:

<https://www.ready.gov/> or
<https://ready.illinois.gov>

Rail Safety Week

Rail Safety Week was September 20-26. This annual week-long event concentrates public attention on the need for rail safety education and saves lives by educating and empowering the public to make safe decisions around tracks and trains.

Tuesday, September 21 focused on the fifth annual observance of Operation Clear Track in the U.S. and Canada emphasizing the importance of obeying crossing safety and anti-trespass laws.

No Photo, Video or Selfie is Worth the Risk, to warn professional and amateur photographers against putting themselves or others in danger by illegally taking photos, videos, or filming near tracks and trains.

The goal of the entire campaign is: Together, we can #STOPTrackTragedies.

*More information is available by visiting:
<https://oli.org/about-us/public-awareness-campaigns/rail-safety-week-sept-20-26>*

Grade Crossing Safety Tips

- **Never** drive or walk around lowered grade crossing gates.
- **Never** attempt to outrun an approaching train.
- **Never** stop your vehicle on a grade crossing waiting for traffic to move.
- **Never** begin to drive across the tracks unless you can get all the way across.
- **Always** call the Emergency Notification System (ENS) number 24 hours a day to report problems or obstructions at the crossing. Look for the number on the blue sign near the crossing or on the crossbuck.
- **Always** remember a train can take a mile or more to stop.
- **Always** know that the average train is three feet wider than the track on each side.
- **Always** slow down and stop your vehicle prior to train tracks when lights begin to flash.



Railroad Trespassing

- **Never** walk, run, play or take pictures on the railroad right-of-way. If you are on or near the tracks, you are trespassing on private property and breaking the law.
- **Never** attempt to outrun an approaching train. It can take a train a mile or more to stop.
- **If** you're standing on the train tracks, you may not hear or feel an oncoming train in time to get away safely.
- **Only** cross the tracks at designated public crossings.
- **For** more safety tips, visit oli.org



RAIL OLI.ORG
SAFETY
WEEK 



WWW.SFM.ILLINOIS.GOV/

35



Amtrak is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

Harvest Safety

HARVEST SEASON IS NOW

DRIVERS:
SLOW DOWN &
Let's all stay safe this harvest season!



Harvest season is in full swing across the state and the OSFM encourages all drivers to slow down and give farmers extra space. These large machines are slow moving and have numerous blind spots when coming down the road. Be patient so you and our farmers can arrive safely to their destination.

Shout Outs/Kudos



The OSFM Elevator Division's Edwina Wohlgemuth is retiring after 32 years of service. Congratulations Edwina, we thank you for your service and hope you enjoy retirement!



**YOU
ROCK**

*We just wanted to personally let you know how awesome it is to work with **Cheryle Kaufman**. Out of all of the many, many entities we have to FOIA for our projects, she hands-down is the fastest and most responsive to our requests. She is a genuine pleasure to work with and has been amazing in helping us get the info needed. It is greatly appreciated by everyone over here.*

*Thanks,
Bill*

Kids' Corner

Name _____

How Smoke Alarms Work

"Hello! I am Marc."

"And I am Maria!"

**"We are
firefighters."**

"Smoke alarms are our friends."



**They keep us safe
when we are awake
and when we sleep.**



**They make loud
sounds if there
is a fire.**



**Beep! Beep!
Beep!**

Parents

Did you know that smoke alarms can stop working?

You should test your smoke alarms every month to make sure they work. If they fail the test, you may need new batteries or a new alarm. Test the alarms in your home now to protect the ones you love!

Kids' Corner



**"Grab a grown-up and a pencil.
Let's find the smoke alarms in your home.
Let's go!"**

1. How many smoke alarms are in your home?

2. Is there a smoke alarm on every floor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Is there a smoke alarm in every bedroom and near other sleeping areas?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Parents

Push the test button on each alarm.
Does it make a loud sound when the button is pushed?

- ☐ **YES** It works! Mark your calendar to test again next month.
- ☐ **NO** Change the battery, or get a new smoke alarm.

Parents

Are the smoke alarms in your home in the right places?

- ☐ On all floors ☐ In all bedrooms ☐ Near other sleeping areas



Did you know that smoke alarms are not supposed to go in kitchens?

Place smoke alarms at least 10 feet from any cooking area to help prevent unwanted alarms while still protecting your family.